Veggie meatballs that even a carnivore will love ARTS & LIFE

The Dallas Morning News

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HOLIDAY SHOPPING

Online deals continue to attract customers

But brick-and-mortar stores still account for most sales

By MARIA HALKIAS
Staff Writer
mhalkias@dallasnews.com

It's so hard to operate stores these days that even the good news comes with a big asterisk.

More people shopped from Thanksgiving through Cyber Monday than had been forecast — 174 million vs. 164 million — and they spent an average of $335.47 each, but the dominant place in shoppers' minds was online, according to a survey from the industry's largest trade group.

About 58 million Americans shopped only online, 51 million shopped only in stores and 65 million said they shopped in both, the National Retail Federation said Tuesday. That

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Survey says . . .

Each year, the National Retail Federation surveys shoppers to find out what they spent over the Thanksgiving holiday. This year, it looked at results from Thanksgiving to Cyber Monday.

WHAT WE SPENT

$335.47

Average spending per person over the five-day period

WHEN WE SHOPPED

THANKSGIVING DAY

11% shopped before 5 p.m.

11% started at 6 p.m.

BLACK FRIDAY

25% began at or after 10 a.m.

CYBER MONDAY

49% started in early morning

41% started in late morning

WHERE WE SHOPPED

Department stores 43%

Online retailers 42%

Electronic stores 32%

Clothing/accessories stores 31%

ONLINE, ANYTIME

75% used home computers

43% used a mobile device

13% used work computers

SOURCE: National Retail Federation

Laurie Joseph/Staff Artist

Democrats skip meeting

Kevin Dietsch/via Getty

President Donald Trump met Tuesday with congressional leaders minus House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, who pulled out after a series of critical Trump tweets, raising prospects of a government shutdown. **(Story on 5A)**

NUCLEAR TENSIONS

North Korea fires another ICBM

Its first missile launched in over 2 months appears capable of reaching D.C.

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — North Korea launched an intercontinental ballistic missile early Wednesday that flew both higher and longer than previous such tests, with experts calculating that it could theoretically reach Washington, D.C.

North Korea claimed that the entire U.S. mainland was within reach after "successfully" testing the new missile, which it called the Hwasong-15, and said it could carry a "super large heavy warhead."

"With this system, we can load the heaviest warhead and strike anywhere in the mainland United States," North Korea's most famous newsreader, Ri Chun Hee, said in a special live broadcast on state television. "This missile is far more technologically advanced than July's Hwasong-14. This signifies that our rocket development process has been completed."

Kim Jong Un, the North Korean leader, had personally authorized the launch, Ri said, a photo of Kim at his desk and the handwritten order appearing on the screen.

Wednesday's launch, the first in more than two months, is a clear sign that the North Korean leader

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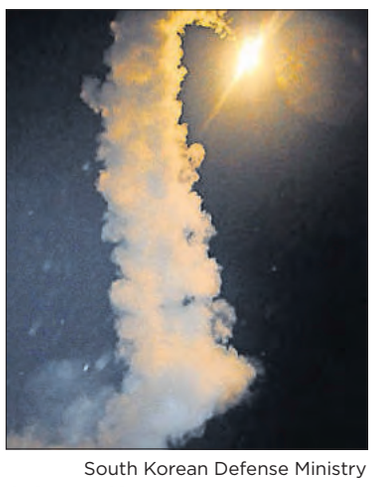

South Korean Defense Ministry

A South Korean missile arced skyward Wednesday during a show of force that followed the North's latest launch.

TEXAS | HEALTH CARE

Clock ticks for CHIP

400,000 poor kids will lose their insurance if state can't find $90M

By JACKIE WANG
Austin Bureau
jackie.wang@dallasnews.com

AUSTIN — Gov. Greg Abbott's administration is trying to avoid mailing health insurance cancellation notices to nearly half a million children three days before Christmas.

Unless it can get $90 million more in federal funding, though, Texas will end its Children's Health Insurance Program on Jan. 31. It would send notices about the program's termination to affected families on Dec. 22. More than 400,000 children of the working poor are covered under CHIP, as the state-federal program is known.

It has enough money to last through January, but Congress has balked at reauthorizing the program.

The state Health and Human Services Commission, which runs Texas' version, requested $90 million from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. That would allow CHIP to continue in Texas through February. If the federal agency does not agree by Dec. 9, the commission would prepare to end the program in January and refer families to the Affordable Care Act's online health insurance marketplace. But there are many concerns about moving families from CHIP to healthcare.gov, according to Adriana Kohler, senior health policy associate for the advocacy group Texans Care for Children.

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CONSUMER AGENCY

Trump pick scores win

Federal judge declines to block Mulvaney as CFPB's acting head

FROM WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump scored a victory Tuesday when a federal judge refused to block the president's choice to temporarily run the nation's top consumer financial watchdog and, for the moment, ended a two-way battle for leadership of the agency.

MICK MULVANEY

Judge Timothy Kelly declined to stop the president from putting Mick Mulvaney in place as the acting director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. In doing so,

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BUSINESS

Dallas home prices continue their rise

Dallas-area home price gains held steady in September, rising 7.1 percent from a year ago — still strong, but the gain was smaller than earlier in the year. **1D**

METRO & STATE

Longtime Rep. Helen Giddings retiring

After more than two decades serving her southern Dallas County district, Helen Giddings, a Democrat, is retiring from the Texas House. **1B**

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Partly cloudy

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